30. (Amended) The [An isolated] nucleic acid molecule of claim 28, wherein said nucleic acid encodes [comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a retinoblastoma protein, wherein said protein has] an amino acid sequence [as] shown in FIG. 5.

31. (Amended) A method of using a nucleic acid of any one of claims 24-30 to express a polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid, said method comprising the steps of providing said nucleic acid in a cell or in an expression system, and expressing said polypeptide from said nucleic acid.

32. (Amended) The nucleic acid [polypeptide] of claim 26 [41], wherein said nucleic acid is [polypeptide is encoded by] an allelic variant of a human retinoblastoma gene.

49. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said cell sample is a human cell sample.

50. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 28, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence predicted from said open-reading frame.

51. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 26, wherein said nucleic acid has an open-reading frame, and wherein the 5' end of said open-reading frame is shown at nucleotide position 337 of the nucleotide sequence shown in FIG. 5, and the 3' end of said open-reading frame is shown at nucleotide position 2784 of the nucleotide sequence shown in FIG. 5.

52. (New) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 51, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence predicted from said open-reading frame.

REMARKS

The invention relates to retinoblastoma nucleic acids. Claims 5, 17, 32-41, and 43-48 are cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 22, 24-27, 30-31, and 42 are amended and claims 49-52 are added to more fully claim applicants' invention. The amendments to the claims are supported by the specification as